

Financial Aid News

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EDUCATION
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Online resources for aid administrators

- [Higher Education Coordinating Board Web site](#)
- [HECB secure Web site for aid administrators](#)
- [State Need Grant](#)
- [State Work Study](#)
- [Washington Promise Scholarship](#)
- [Educational Opportunity Grant](#)
- [Washington Scholars Program](#)
- [WAVE](#)
- [Other state aid programs](#)
- [Past issues of the *Financial Aid News* and other publications](#)
- [Washington Financial Aid Association](#)
- [Washington State Association of Student Employment Administrators](#)
- [Western Association of Financial Aid Administrators](#)
- [Western Association of Student Employment Administrators](#)
- [National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators](#)



Higher Education
Coordinating Board

HECBFinancialAid@hecb.wa.gov

<http://www.hecb.wa.gov>

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Issue 39 — January 26, 2004

In this issue:

- March training will help student employment administrators "SEE" the big picture
- Congress passes spending bill for FY 2004
- Bush calls for bigger Pell Grants for academic achievers and \$250 million for a new job training program
- Legislative update
- Legislative hearings on financial aid and select higher education issues — Jan. 26 – 31
- Online resources for tracking and analyzing legislation
- Bills of interest by subject

March training will help student employment administrators "SEE" the big picture

"Student Employment Essentials" offers prelude to annual SWS training in May

The Higher Education Coordinating Board will sponsor training in March for State Work Study (SWS) administrators in "Student Employment Essentials."

The one-day workshop will provide a comprehensive overview of student employment issues, including how to train supervisors, recruit and orient student employees, and comply with immigration and employment laws.

Trainers from the Western Association of Student Employment Administrators will facilitate the workshop, which will be offered twice in the state: **March 2** at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, and **March 4** at Central Washington University in Ellensburg.

The Higher Education Coordinating Board will pay the \$130 registration fee for any SWS administrator who registers in advance for the training.

"This training will provide a broad context for student employment administrators," said Betty Gebhardt, associate director for education services at the board. "Student employment programs grow more complex by the day, and the professionals who work with students and employers have to stay current on an extensive range of issues to do their jobs well. This workshop will help them do that."

Gebhardt said the March workshop also will prepare administrators for the board's annual SWS training workshops in May. "We want people to go to both," she said. "The March workshop will establish a general framework for student employment programming.

And our May training will give folks the specific information they need to administer the State Work Study program on their campuses."

Workshop participants need to register in advance. The Board will send a registration brochure to SWS administrators. If you are interested in attending, please complete and return the form as quickly as possible.

For more information, contact Betty Gebhardt at bettyg@hecb.wa.gov or (360) 753-7852.

Congress passes spending bill for FY 2004

Bill also halts a controversial change to the student aid formula

The U.S. Senate on Jan. 22 approved a spending bill for fiscal year 2004, which began nearly four months ago on Oct. 1. The measure, which the House passed last month, includes appropriations for the Department of Education (ED), 10 other cabinet departments, and dozens of federal agencies. President Bush is expected to sign the bill into law by the end of this month.

Dates to remember

Feb. 6 — SNG Interim report due

Colleges and universities submit the interim report quarterly. Information on the report helps board staff monitor expenditures, determine how many eligible students are being served, and ensure the fullest possible use of program funds.

Contact Julie Japhet at juliej@hecb.wa.gov or (360) 753-7840.

Student Employment Essentials

March 2 — UPS, Tacoma

March 4 — CWU, Ellensburg

The one-day workshop will provide information about immigration and employment laws, supervisor training, and student recruitment and orientation. The HECB will pay registration costs for SWS administrators. Watch for the brochure in your mail, and register early.

Contact Betty Gebhardt at bettyg@hecb.wa.gov or (360) 753-7852.

The programs and agencies funded by the bill have been operating under a series of continuing resolutions — legislation that allows the government to keep running without a current appropriation.

Lawmakers increased funding for Pell Grants by about \$640 million over the FY 2003 level, but kept the current maximum yearly grant of \$4,050 per student. They also increased funding for Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants by \$10 million.

They cut a number of programs, too. Appropriations for Federal Work Study are down \$5.9 million from FY 2003. Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnerships is down \$400,000, and funds for new Perkins Loans and the Perkins Forgiveness program are down by a combined \$1 million.

The spending bill prevents the Department of Education from implementing a controversial change to the student aid formula. Department officials announced last May they would update the state and local tax data used when determining what families could contribute toward college costs. The change would have made an estimated 84,000 current Pell Grant recipients ineligible for the grant in 2004-05, when it was to have taken effect, and reduced overall eligibility for need-based aid by up to \$10 billion a year. The appropriations bill stops the department from making the change until at least the 2005-06 award year.

Subscribers to *The Chronicle of Higher Education* can find an overview of federal education appropriations on the newspaper's [Web site](#). The Department of Education's Web site provides more detail about the [FY 2004 appropriations bill](#).

Bush calls for bigger Pell Grants for academic achievers and \$250 million for a new job training program

In his recent State of the Union address, President Bush called for \$250 million in job training grants to community colleges and bigger Pell Grants for students who complete a rigorous high school curriculum.

Both proposals are part of "[Jobs for the 21st Century](#)"— a \$500 million White House initiative aimed at strengthening postsecondary education, job training, and high school education.

The job training program would be administered by the Department of Labor, not the Department of Education. According to a [Chronicle of Higher Education report](#), \$250 million would finance partnerships between community colleges and employers in fields where the demand for workers outstrips the supply.

Under the president's Pell Grant proposal, financially needy students who take a rigorous high school curriculum could qualify for an additional \$1,000 in each of their first two years of college.

Congress authorized the enhanced Pell Grants in the 1992 Higher Education Act, but never appropriated money for it. The administration estimates that 36,000 students would be eligible for the enhanced grants at a cost of \$33 million in fiscal year 2005.

Legislative update

The Legislature wrapped up its second week of the regular session on Friday. Lawmakers have introduced several higher education bills, a few with financial aid implications. Some of the proposed legislation would do the following:

- Allow for a change in Promise Scholarship rules so that students with special needs could use the award at Oregon and Idaho colleges in counties that border Washington.
- Create a conditional scholarship program for prospective teachers in the fields of mathematics, science, technology, special education, or bilingual education.
- Require state colleges and universities to develop payment plans that allow students to pay for tuition over the course of an academic term.
- Permit state colleges and universities to consider race, color, ethnicity or national origin in the admission process without using quotas or assigning points to applicants based on those characteristics.
- Consolidate the University of Washington Bothell campus and Cascadia Community College into a new regional university.
- Create a pilot project for state colleges and universities to develop performance contracts with the state; schools in the pilot project could negotiate for responsibilities and regulatory freedoms in exchange for meeting performance goals.

The *Financial Aid News* is tracking these and other bills. See the table, updated weekly, at the end of each issue.

For more information about legislation, check out the Web sites in our "Online resources for tracking legislation" feature on the following page. Or contact us at (360) 753-7850.

Legislative hearings on financial aid and select higher education issues — Jan. 26 - 31

You can listen to hearings — live or from the archives — on [TVW's Web site](#).

Monday, Jan. 26:

Senate Higher Education Committee, 1:30 p.m., Senate Hearing Room 3

Public hearing, including:

- SB 6332 – College and university performance contracts pilot projects (continued from Jan. 22)
- SB 6165 – Allowing HECB to set rules for Promise Scholarships for students with special needs

Work session

Tuesday, Jan. 27:

House Higher Education Committee, 10 a.m., House Hearing Room D

Work session:

- Overview and history of branch campuses

Public hearing:

- HB 2707 – Reaffirming the mission of the higher education branch campuses
- HB 2843 – Consolidating UW Bothell and Cascadia Community College into a regional comprehensive institution called Cascadia State University

Wednesday, Jan. 28:

House Higher Education Committee, 1:30 p.m., House Hearing Room D

Public hearing:

- HB 2700 – Promoting diversity in college admissions
- HB 2681 – College and university performance contracts pilot projects

Thursday, Jan. 29:

Senate Higher Education Committee, 10 a.m., Senate Hearing Room 3

Public hearing, including:

- SCR 8421 – HECB 2004 Interim Strategic Master Plan

Friday, Jan. 30:

House Higher Education Committee, 8 a.m., House Hearing Room D

Public hearing, including:

- HB 2708 – Conditional scholarships for prospective teachers

Online resources for tracking and analyzing legislation

Full text of bills and supporting materials:

<http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/bills.cfm>

Complete legislative hearing schedule:

<http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/calendar.cfm>

Live and archived Web broadcast of all hearings:

<http://www.tvw.org>

HECB 2003 legislative session site:

<http://www.hecb.wa.gov/Leg/index.asp>

Bills of interest by subject

For current information about the status of a bill, visit the Washington State Legislature's Web site: <http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/bills.cfm>.

Bill numbers **Sponsors** **Description**
Senate
House

Washington Promise Scholarship

SB 6165	Benton	Allows the HECB to establish rules for eligible recipients with special needs to receive the Promise Scholarship while attending Oregon and Idaho colleges in counties bordering Washington
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Financial aid programs for teacher education

SB 6470	Murray	Creates a scholarship program to pay for continuing education credits for first-year teachers at schools receiving federal Title I funds; to be administered by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction
HB 2708	Ormsby	Creates a conditional scholarship program for prospective teachers pursuing certificates in mathematics, science, technology, special education, or bilingual education

Proposals concerning the Higher Education Coordinating Board

SCR 8421	Carlson	Concurrent resolution to adopt or recommend changes or additions to the HECB 2004 Interim Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education; will guide the board's work in preparing the final version of the plan that is due in June
HCR 4416	Kenney	
SSB 6129	Carlson	Increases HECB membership from 10 to 12; replaces some current citizen members with the Superintendent of Public Instruction and representatives from the community and technical college system, public research universities, public comprehensive universities, community and technical college faculty, and four-year college faculty; governor will continue to appoint five at-large citizens and one student representative

Residency

SB 6164	B. Sheldon	Allows dependents and spouses of military personnel to maintain residency status when the service person is transferred out of state; student must be "continuously enrolled in a degree program"
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Bills of interest by subject — continued

For current information about the status of a bill, visit the Washington State Legislature's Web site: <http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/bills.cfm>.

Bill numbers **Sponsors** **Description**
Senate
House

Tuition payment plans

SB 6532	Schmidt	Introduced as companion bills; require colleges and universities to make available an optional payment plan to allow students to pay all tuition and fees throughout an academic term in approximately equal monthly amounts; requirement takes effect fall term 2004
HB 2827	Ormsby	

Diversity in admissions

SB 6268	Kohl-Welles	Introduced as companion bills; permit a college or university to maintain a diverse student population by considering race, color, ethnicity, or national origin in the admission process without using quotas, predetermined points, or set asides
HB 2700	Kenney	

Branch campuses

HB 2707	Kenney	Reaffirms the mission of branch campuses and requires HECB to adopt rules to ensure collaborative partnerships between branches and community and technical colleges; specifies that branches are responsible for upper-division and master's-level graduate education, except WSU Spokane, which may provide doctoral education
HB 2843	Sommers	Consolidates UW Bothell and Cascadia Community College into a regional comprehensive institution called Cascadia State University

Performance contracts

SB 6332	Kohl-Welles	Introduced as companion bills; provides for performance contracts with institutions of higher education on a pilot basis
HB 2681	Kenney	

Supplemental operating appropriations

SB 6187	Zarelli	Making supplemental operating appropriations for the 2003-05 biennium
HB 2459	Sommers	Making supplemental operating appropriations for the 2003-05 biennium